

## The Navajo Nation Office of the President and Vice President

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Navajo Nation Days of Prayer to be observed from June 25 – 27, 2021

**WINDOW ROCK, Ariz.** – Navajo Nation President Jonathan Nez and Vice President Myron Lizer, in coordination with the Navajo Nation Division of Behavioral and Mental Health Services, faith-based organizations, churches, Native American Church organizations, and Navajo traditional practitioners are pleased to announce the "Navajo Nation Days of Prayer" from June 25 – 27, 2021 to offer prayers for rain/moisture for our people, livestock, agriculture, and the healing of Navajo communities as we recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.

On Friday, June 25, President Nez and Vice President Lizer will be joined by 24<sup>th</sup> Navajo Nation Council Speaker Seth Damon and Navajo Nation Chief Justice JoAnn B. Jayne for a virtual opening ceremony and proclamation signing ceremony for the "Navajo Nation Days of Prayer." The virtual event will be live-streamed on the Nez-Lizer Facebook page and YouTube Channel at 1:00 p.m. (MDT) on Friday.

"During the days of prayer, we're inviting all Navajo citizens and residents of all faiths to join us in collective prayer for rain and healing. We have many wildfires in the southwest due to the ongoing drought and there have been reports of livestock and wildlife suffering from the impacts. In the past week, we have experienced excessive heat warnings and fire danger," said President Nez.

"The Department of Water Resources is doing their best to fix earthen dams and windmills and to deliver water resources to families. So far, they have fixed several dozen and continue to work to fix more. We also have the Navajo Department of Health and the Community Health Representatives delivering water resources to elders and disabled at their homes as well. Across the country, people are experiencing tremendous challenges. We need to take more action and also unite in prayer to help restore our water resources and to heal physically and mentally from the COVID-19 pandemic," President Nez added.

On Saturday, June 26, several faith-based groups, churches, Native American Church organizations, and Navajo traditional practitioners will be hosting prayer services, events, and ceremonies across the Navajo Nation. All events will adhere to Navajo Nation COVID-19 public health orders, such as wearing a face mask and no gatherings of more than 25 individuals.

On Sunday, June 27, President Nez and Vice President Lizer encourage families, friends, and neighbors to join in prayer at home, at a church, or at a ceremony to heal Navajo families, communities, and land.

"Now is the time to turn to prayer for strength, hope, and guidance. Prayer holds a key in our lives and the life of our Navajo Nation. We can call upon the power of prayer to provide strength to overcome a pandemic, heal the loss of lives and livelihoods, and restore the drought threats. Our administration is also deploying resources on the ground to help address these issues. During the three days, we will unite with purpose and resolve to address the issues we face – no matter our faith and beliefs," said Vice President Lizer.

For more information regarding the events or services, please contact the Navajo Nation Office of the President and Vice President at (928) 871 – 7907 or email <a href="mailto:nndayofprayer2021@gmail.com">nndayofprayer2021@gmail.com</a>.

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